

Message Text

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73

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 /029 W

----- 113574

R 021200Z APR 75

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1842

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 364

BEIRUT FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, ELTN, IZ

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: NEW RAIL LINE BAGHDAD-BASRA-UM QASR

1. HENDERSON, HUGHES AND BUSBY, CONSLUTING ENGINEERS OF LONDON, 67 CLERKENWELL ROAD, LONDON EC1R 5BJ, ENGLAND, HAVE BEEN AWARDED CONTRACT FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY, DESIGN AND SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION OF NEW HIGH SPEED STANDARD GUAGE RAILWAY BETWEEN BAGHDAD, BASRA AND UM QASR. IRAQI CONSULTANT IS DAR-AL-JAMARAH OF BAGHDAD.

2. ROUTE LENGTH IS 850 KM AT ESTIMATED COST OF 500 MILLION DOLLARS. DESIGN IS TO BE COMPLETED IN EARLY 1977 WITH CONSTRUCTION TO COMMENCE LATE 1977.

3. COMMENT: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONTRACT INCLUDE TYPE OF TRACTION, KINGS OF ROLLIN STOCK, SIGNALLING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING. ACCORDING SOME SOURCES PROJECT WILL HAVE TO ENTAIL ALMOST TOTAL REDO OF SOVIET LINE BUILT 1961-64. PORTION THROUGH SOUTHERN MARSHES PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT. SOME INDICATIONS THAT GOI LEANING TOWARD ELECTRIFICATION.

4. SUGGEST USDOC INFORM RAILROAD ASSOCIATIONS AND MAGAZINES AND RTDO DO LIKEWISE WITH GM, GE AND OTHER RAILROAD-RELATED FIRMS IN BEIRUT.

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LOWRIE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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